(c) Tantnagar and Manjhari area is covered withTelephone facility by Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) network.

New post offices in Mumbai

1215. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to open new Post Offices in Mumbai;

(b) if so, the details of the proposed Post Offices, area-wise; and

(c) by when the proposal would be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SU. THIRUNAVUKKARASAR): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. However this will be subject to fulfilment of norms relating to population, distance and income and availability of requisite resources under Annual Plan. During the current year 5 post offices have been opened so far in Mumbai by relocation. A target of 25 Branch Offices and 2 Sub Offices have also been recently allotted to Maharashtra Circle, for implementation under plan during the current financial year, for which Circle will formulate proposals subject to compliance of the existing norms.

MTNL's Overseas Venture

1216. MISS MABEL REBELLO:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that MTNL Plans Overseas Ventures, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether MTNL propose to finalise inter-connect agreement with Videsh Sanchar Nigam Limited (VSNL) for the year 2003-04; if so, the details thereof; and

(c) how far MTNL has succeeded in adding subscribers in the country during the year 2002-03?